

I Claim:

1. A vending machine for selling heated food in a pan, the machine comprising

a housing with four sides, a base and a top, at least one side being capable of opening, the housing opening side having several slots, one slot for dispensing a heated food in a pan and other slots for accepting money or its equivalent; the housing opening side further comprising a video screen and optionally depressible buttons;

a refrigerator within the housing, the refrigerator having sides, a roof and a floor, the refrigerator roof having an opening door; the side having a fastenable door;

a horizontally rotating apparatus within the refrigerator, said apparatus having a plurality of stations, each station capable of carrying a stack of food pans, with one food pan on top;

an elevator positioned below the roof door, the elevator being capable of elevating a station such that the top food pan is raised above the refrigerator roof;

a means for removing a cover from the food pan;

a plurality of arms radiating from a central hub on top of the refrigerator roof, the arms being rotated horizontally, the arms forming a plurality of spaces for carrying the food pans, whereby the arms push the pans around the refrigerator roof;

an oven comprising a first heating element positioned above the food pan, a second heating element positioned below the pan, and sides formed by the two arms on either side of the food pan and an outer wall connecting the top and bottom of the oven; and

a computer to carry out a food selection and to control the refrigerator and oven temperatures.

2. The food vending machine of claim 1 wherein the means for removing the cover from the food pan comprises two closely apposed movable rollers which move in opposite directions and are positioned above the pizza pan

and a source of air positioned below the film covering, whereby the air blows upward an edge of the film covering which is then grasped between the two rollers which turn and pull the film covering from the pizza pan.

3. The food vending machine of claim 1, wherein the video screen is a touch screen for selecting the food.

4. The food vending machine of claim 1, wherein the openable door in the refrigerator roof further comprises a motor to slide the door open.

5. A vending machine providing heated pizzas in pans, the vending machine comprising

a housing having four sides, a base and a top, at least one side being capable of opening, the side having several slots, one slot for dispensing a pizza and other slots for accepting money or its equivalent; the opening side further comprising a video screen to show available selections and directions and several depressible buttons arranged around the screen;

an insulated vessel within the housing, the vessel having cylindrical or rectangular sides, a top and a bottom, the top having an openable door; the side having a fastenable door through which the pizzas in covered pans can be inserted to refill the machine;

a compressor connected to the vessel to cool the pizzas within the vessel;

a horizontally rotating apparatus within the vessel, said apparatus having a plurality of stations, each station capable of carrying a stack of pizzas, each station separated from the adjacent station with spacers which maintain the stack of pizza pans on the station;

an elevator which is positioned below the openable door of the vessel, the elevator being capable of elevating a station such that a top pizza of the pizza stack is raised out of the vessel;

a means for removing the film covering from a pizza pan, the removing means comprising two closely apposed movable rollers which move in opposite directions and are positioned above the pizza pan and a source of air positioned below the film covering, whereby the air blows upward an edge of the film

covering, which is then grasped between the two rollers that turn and pull the film covering from the pizza pan;

a plurality of arms arranged in a spoke-like fashion on top of the vessel, said arms being rotated horizontally by a motor, a plurality of spaces between the arms for containing pizza pans, whereby the arms rotate and push the pizza pan around the top of the vessel;

an oven comprising a first heating element in the top, above the pizza, a second heating element in the base, below the pizza, two sides formed by the arms before and behind the pizza and a lateral side connecting the top and base of the oven; and

a computer to control the selection of the pizza to be dispensed, and to control the temperature of the drum and the oven.